ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A process and diastereomeric salts useful for the 5 optical resolution of racemic α -[4-(1,1dimethylethyl)phenyl]-4-(hydroxydiphenylmethyl)-1piperidinebutanol, 4-[4-[4-(hydroxydiphenylmethyl)-lpiperidinyl]-l-hydroxybutyl]- α , α -dimethylbenzeneacetic acid and lower alkyl 4-[4-[4-(hydroxydiphenylmethyl)-l-10 piperidinyl]-l-hydroxybutyl]- α , α -dimethylbenzeneacetates. The process comprises placing into solution a chiral resolving agent, either (+)/(-)-di-paratoluoyltartaric acid or (-)/(+)-mandelic acid, in an amount equimolar to a compound corresponding to the desired enantiomer of the . 15 above compound, precipitating the resulting diastereomeric salt between the chiral resolving agent and the target enantiomer and separating the enantiomer.

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